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GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT

Letter dated 17 October 1996 from the Permanent Representative of Belgium to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to report to you the current status of Belgian legislation on anti-personnel mines.

The Acts of 9 March 1995 and 24 June 1996 have greatly modified Belgian legislation on the subject of anti-personnel mines. They have introduced a complete ban on the use of anti-personnel mines. The production, acquisition and stocking of such mines are also prohibited. The Act of 24 June 1996 requires the State or the public authorities to destroy existing stocks of anti-personnel mines and similar traps or devices within three years.

A limited number of anti-personnel mines will, however, be kept for research and training.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 71.

(Signed) Alex REYN
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Belgium
to the United Nations

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